

## **Literature/Theater and Drama**

### **THE SHAKESPEARIENCE OF A LIFETIME: STUDYING THE BARD IN HIS OWN BACKYARD. ~ Mino Wadia**

*LD (Lower Division 100-200)/ UD (Upper Division 300-400)*

*3 credit hours*

To appreciate Shakespeare's plays in performance, especially via live theater (and film) ? to be able to comment insightfully and enhance understanding of the plays' ideas via thoughtful commentary in pre-performance lectures and post-performance critical discussions ? to be able to critically analyze Shakespeare's text (20-40 lines at a time) with integrated scholarly apparatus. This class will have at least one close reading assignment and one essay question. Each of these assignments will be about 5-8 pages in length. ? to learn more about Shakespeare's plays within the context of his life and times ? to improve writing style by integrating quotations smoothly and varying sentence structure ? to improve critical and analytical thinking skills in writing about the plays ? to develop an appreciation for Shakespeare's writings and the business of the theater ? to be able to clearly identify and expand on relevant topics and terms ? to gain understanding into the spirit of the Elizabethan period ? to experience the culture of England first hand so that students can infuse their papers with the rich theatrical traditions of England. Based on the plays we might be seeing, students will need to have read all of them prior to arrival in England. The Arden editions and the Furness Variorum series on Shakespeare's works will be mandatory reference works. Additional texts and the use of the Shakespeare Collection database will also be required research resources. In addition to providing students with information related to various aspects of the world of British theater, including a broad overview of the history of drama, The Shakespearience of a Lifetime will provide the students with terminology related to the world of the theater in such areas as costuming, stage management, stage design, forms of theater, the theater building, and theater jobs. Students will be expected to familiarize themselves with the glossary of theater terms in order to effectively discuss production aspects such as costume, art design, lighting, special effects, timing, and so on. The reading material for students seeking credit for this course will be substantive and necessitates attendance at all class-related activities and events, that is, the five plays and all site visits on your official CCSA itinerary. Further information will be provided on-site in Stratford-upon-Avon and London. Most high value graded work for the course will be completed upon the students' return to the United States.

Can the course be taken to fulfill major and minor requirements? YES

Can the course be taken to fulfill general elective credits? YES

Are there prerequisites for this course?

Students need to have completed lower-division freshman composition and world literature.

### Assessment Methods:

Students taking the class for upper-division credit will do the following:

**Upper-Division Grading** (for those students getting undergraduate **upper division** credit) *Note: all work done by these students will be graded on a significantly higher standard*

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|--|-------------|
| Short reviews (400-500 words) of two plays (2 @ 75 each)           | 150         |
| Essay-length reviews (800-1000 words) of two plays (2 @ 125 each)  | 250         |
| Journal of daily activities (1 @ 150)                              | 150         |
| Close Reading (4-6 pages) (1 @ 175)                                | 175         |
| Long essay (800—1000 words) based on instructor question (1 @ 175) | 175         |
| Attendance at plays and formal discussions (100)                   | <u>100</u>  |
| <b>Total Points</b>  | <b>1000</b> |

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Students taking the class for graduate credit will do the following:

**Graduate Grading** (for those getting graduate credit) *Note: all work done by these students will be graded on the highest standard.*

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| Expanded Reviews (800-1000 words) of all 4 plays (4 @ 75 each) | 300         |
| Journal of daily activities                                    | 200         |
| One 10-12 page scholarly paper based on instructor prompt      | 400         |
| Attendance at plays and formal discussions                     | <u>100</u>  |
| <b>Total Points</b>  | <b>1000</b> |